

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3516

Dear Chair DeFazio and Ranking Member Graves:

I am requesting funding for Eastern Road Extension in surface transportation reauthorization legislation.

The project sponsor for this project is the City of New Franklin and the project is located at Eastern Road New Franklin, Ohio 44203.

The funding is designated to provide preliminary planning for a new east/west arterial roadway that extends Eastern Road from Van Buren Avenue to Fairland Road. This arterial roadway would provide a connection between State Route 619 and State Route 21 and increase access to nearby State Route 585.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer dollars and is anticipated to benefit the communities of southern Summit County and northwestern Wayne County. While these cities have seen significant increase in residential growth over the past decade, connectivity to interstates, freeways, and expressways in the areas has remained stagnant. The creation of an east-west roadway connection for SR 619 and SR 21 will provide connectivity that would spur economic development. This not only benefits New Franklin, but Barberton, Norton, Green, and Chippewa Township as well. An east-west connection from SR 21 provides an alternative route into the western portions of the city of Green, reducing congested exit ramps on Interstate 77. An alternative route would reduce traffic, commute times, and idling at stop lights. Furthermore, the reduction of idling and improved overall traffic flow provides environmental benefits due to the decrease in emissions associated with these issues.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,



Anthony Gonzalez
Member of Congress
April 22, 2021